

Appl. No. 09/771,410
Amdt. Dated 10/18/2004
Reply to Office action of 09/22/2004

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Listing of Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended) The A method of claim 3, wherein for determining network traffic flowing between a first region and a second region, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying one or more routers in the first region by determining a longitude and a latitude of the one or more routers in the first region;

identifying one or more routers in the second region by determining a longitude and latitude of the one or more routers in the second region;

identifying links that connect the identified one or more routers in the first region to the identified one or more routers in the second region, the step of identifying the links comprises comprising the steps of:

retrieving information about topology of the one or more routers in the first and second regions;

selecting the one or more routers in the first region whose determined longitude and latitude are in predetermined areas of the first region;

selecting the one or more routers in the second region whose determined longitude and latitude are in predetermined areas of the second region; and

comparing the latitude and longitude of the selected one or more routers in the first and second regions with the retrieved topology information to identify links that connect the selected one or more routers in the first region to the selected one or more routers in the second region;

determining, at a processor remote from the one or more routers in the first and second regions, used bandwidth of the identified links over a period of time; and

determining the network traffic flowing between the first and second regions based on the determined used band width.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The method of claim 1-4, wherein the step of determining the used bandwidth comprises the step of:

determining a plurality of used bandwidth samples of the identified links over the period of time.

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Claim 6 (currently amended) The A method of claim 1 wherein for determining network traffic flowing between a first region and a second region, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying one or more routers in the first region;

identifying one or more routers in the second region;

identifying links that connect the identified one or more routers in the first region to the identified one or more routers in the second region;

determining, at a processor remote from the one or more routers in the first and second regions, used bandwidth of the identified links over a period of time; and

determining the network traffic flowing between the first and second regions based on the determined used bandwidth, the step of determining the network traffic comprises comprising the steps of:

determining an average of a plurality of samples of the used bandwidth remotely determined by the processor; and

multiplying the determined average by the period of time to determine the network traffic flowing between the first and second regions.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The A method of claim 1, wherein for determining the traffic flowing through a first region and a second region, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying one or more routers in the first region,

identifying one or more routers in the second region;

identifying links that connect the identified one or more routers in the first region to the identified one or more routers in the second region;

determining, at a processor remote from the one or more routers in the first and second regions, used bandwidth of the identified links over a period of time; and

determining the network traffic flowing between the first and second regions based on the determined used bandwidth, the step of determining the network traffic comprises comprising the steps of:

estimating a total number of links connecting routers in the first region to routers in the second region; and

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multiplying the estimated total number of links by the determined used bandwidth to determine the network traffic flowing between the first and second regions.

Claim 8 (currently amended) A method for determining network traffic within a region, said method ~~comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

identifying a sample of hosts in the region, each sample including one or more servers;

identifying, at a processor remote from the sample host, last pairs of identifiable routers on respective routes from the processor to the sample hosts;

identifying respective links connecting the identified pairs of routers;

determining used bandwidth of the identified respective links; and

determining the network traffic within the region based on the determined used bandwidth by estimating a total number of hosts in the region and multiplying the estimated total number of hosts by the determined used bandwidth.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of identifying the last pairs of identifiable routers comprises the steps of:

invoking a traceroute program at the processor to identify routers on respective routes to the sample hosts; and

selecting pairs of the identified routers on the respective routes such that each selected pair has a shortest hop to a respective one of the sample hosts.

Claim 10 (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of determining the used bandwidth comprises the step of:

invoking a getbandwidth program at the processor to determine a plurality of used bandwidth samples for each of the identified respective links.

Claims 11-15 (canceled)